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ABSTRACT

A study examined the interrelationships between sexuality, family, and the labor market in Great Britain. First, a range of analyses of women's role in the labor market, including analyses from feminist and sociological perspectives, were reviewed to determine how sexual as opposed to gender relations operate in the labor market. Next, the role of women as unpaid and paid workers in family businesses was examined. Finally, the gendered structure and dynamics of work in a British hotel and leisure park were examined in a 6-month field study focusing on the relationship between sexuality and the gendered organization of employment relations. The study's main conclusions were as follows: (1) far from existing only outside the domain of employment, both family and sexual work relations can play a significant role in structuring gendered work relations within the labor market; (2) in the hotel and catering industries, work relations are frequently organized by the patriarchal relations of the family; (3) to gain access to employment, most women have no choice but to occupy positions of sexual subjects; and (4) sexual exploitation in the workplace is the outcome of work relations that operate only for women. (Contains 218 references and 11 figures/tables.) (MN)

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